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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant : Huang et al.

Art Unit : 2872

TE 2800 MAIL ROOM

Serial No. : 09/702,280

Examiner : C. Curtis

Filed : October 30, 2000

Title : OPTICAL POLARIZATION BEAM COMBINER/SPLITTER

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

RESPONSE

In the claims:

Please amend claims 2 and 22-37 as follows (unamended claims appear below in small print and italics for ease of reference):

2. (Twice amended) An optical polarization beam splitter comprising:
a first optical fiber having an end defining a first optical axis;
a second optical fiber having an end defining a second optical axis;
a third optical fiber having an end defining a third optical axis parallel to and spaced apart from said second optical axis;
a collimating lens disposed along said first optical axis positioned to form a collimated optical beam from said first optical fiber;
a focusing lens disposed along a path of said collimated optical beam;
a birefringent walk-off crystal having a first face adjacent to said focusing lens, said first face located at a focal plane of said focusing lens with an angle to said first optical axis to reduce

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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